

# NEWS RELEASE

**OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS**

**RANDY G. MASSEY  
ACTING UNITED STATES ATTORNEY**

---

*Nine Executive Drive, Fairview Heights, Illinois 62208, Telephone (618) 628-3700*

---

***For Immediate Release***

**JUNE 7, 2006**

Randy G. Massey, Acting United States Attorney for the Southern District of Illinois, announced today that on June 2, 2006, **PATRICK L. ORIEDO**, a/k/a “P,” age 26, of Evanston, Illinois, was convicted by a jury in United States District Court in East St. Louis, Illinois. **ORIEDO** was convicted of conspiracy to distribute more than five grams of crack cocaine, distribution of crack cocaine, possession of a firearm by a felon, and carrying a firearm during and in relation to a drug trafficking crime. The offenses occurred between April 2003 and July 2, 2003, in Jackson, Williamson, Union, and Pulaski Counties.

**ORIEDO**’s conspiracy offense carries a penalty of 5-40 years’ imprisonment, a fine of up to \$2,000,000, and a term of 4 years’ supervised release. The distribution of crack cocaine offense carries a penalty of up to 20 years’ imprisonment, a fine of up to \$1,000,000, and a term of 3 years’ supervised release. The firearm possession offense carries a penalty of up to 10 years’ imprisonment, a fine of up to \$250,000, and a term of 3 years’ supervised release. The carrying a firearm during a drug trafficking offense carries a sentence of 5 years’ imprisonment, which must be served consecutive to the other terms. **ORIEDO** is set for sentencing on September 11, 2006. Co-defendant ANTOINE SMITH has already been sentenced to 37 months’ imprisonment for his role in the crack cocaine conspiracy.

The investigation was conducted by the Jackson County Sheriff’s Office, Murphysboro Police Department, Southern Illinois Enforcement Group, Drug Enforcement Administration, Carbondale Police Department, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, pursuant to their participation in the Jackson County Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative. Under the Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative, federal, state, and local law enforcement and prosecutors are working together to prosecute drug dealers, felons in possession of firearms, and criminals that use firearms to commit violent offenses or drug trafficking offenses in the system that will get them the most time.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Amanda A. Robertson.